

[English]

Non-plan Expenditure

*459. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have not provided any amount by way of non-plan expenditure during 1997-98 for Public Sector Undertakings like Scooters India Ltd. (SIL), Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC), Hindustan Paper Corporation (HPC) and Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd. (BYN);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the manner in which expenditure towards the salary of employees and other maintenance charges are proposed to be met during the year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Non-Plan loans provided in BE 1997-98 for HEC, HPC, etc.:

(Rs. in crore)

PSU	Non-Plan loan in BE1997-98	Remarks
1. Scooter India Ltd.	..	The Company does not need Non-Plan support from Government in 1997-98 due to improved performance. It earned a profit of Rs.1.09 crore in 1996-97.
2. Heavy Engineering Corporation	18.00	
3. Hindustan Paper Corporation	..	The Company has not sought any Non-Plan support from Government as it expects to earn an operating profit in 1997-98.
4. Bharat Yantra Nigam Ltd.	9.70	This comprises Rs. 5.70 crore for Triveni Structural Ltd. and Rs. 4 crore for Richardson & Cruddas (1972) Ltd. both subsidiaries of BYNL. The provisions made are as per the requirement of funds envisaged in the sanctioned BIFR scheme.

(c) No difficulty is envisaged in meeting the expenditure towards salary of employees and other maintenance charges, of these PSUs. The expenditure to the extent required will be met from their own internal resources.

[Translation]

Foreign Ministers Conference of NAM Countries

*460. SHRI KACHARU BHARU RAUT :
SHRI B.L. SHANKAR :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether NAM Ministerial Conference was held in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the number of countries participated in the conference;

(c) the details of the decisions taken in this conference;

(d) whether any declaration was made regarding withdrawal of Israel forces from all Palestinian territories;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the benefits likely to accrue to India by the NAM conference;

(g) whether it has improved the possibility of India entering the UN Security Council as a permanent member; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 129 countries participated in the Conference, including 99 Member States, 6 Observers and 24 Guests.

(c) Apart from restating the views of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on international issues, the Conference adopted declarations on Security Council restructuring, on Agenda 21, and on the Middle East Peace Process, and a communique on Palestine.

(d) and (e) The Conference reiterated the demand for the withdrawal of Israel from all Palestinian and other Arab lands, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967.

(f) The Conference has reinforced the Movement's unity and sharpened its focus on major issues. Since non-alignment is an important element of India's foreign policy, the strengthening of the Movement benefits us.

(g) and (h) The Conference made it clear that Non-aligned countries would not accept a partial or selective expansion of the Security Council to the detriment of developing countries. This is a gain from India's perspective.